Copy from the George D. Benedict Papers, 1863-1864 (#4943z) in the Southern Historical Collection, Manuscripts Department, Wilson Library, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. **For personal reference only.** This document should not be added to the holdings of another library or repository. Permission to publish must be requested. Please note that this document may be protected under copyright.

#4943-z
GEORGE D. BENEDICT PAPERS

1863: April-June

Folder 1 of 3

Suffolk April 2th 1863.
Dear wife I take this opportu
nity to inform you that I
am well and hearty at present
and hope these lines will find
you all the same I am supernumer
ary to day and expect to go on
Camp Guard tomarrow my tent
mates are all out on Picket to day
it is very windy today but Clear
and pleasent the Sand flies equal
to Snow in york State in awindy
day oh how nasty our pickets brou
ght in 2 Rebel prisners this morning
that deserted the rebel army I
Saw them they were poorly Clad
and said they did not have half
enough to eat we are Sining the
pay Roole to day which we have
to do every time before we git
pay we expect Some pay tomarrow
or very Soon the troops are in
Good health now Elexander kinghorn
is our Cook now of Angelica

we have lots of very fine music here
I have become acquainted with Mr
Ames of Angelica he is agood Chri
stian man I believe he is in our
Company he and I have agreat meny
Good Chats togeather he tents within
4 rods of me I have Got a quite a
number of Good friends in the Regiment
and I am Glad of it April 4th
my Dear wife I am well I came off
of Camp guard this morning and to
Knight it Snows very fast it
has been very windy for aday or two
and the Sand flew like snow in the
winter it is all quiet here yet
Sarah my Dear wife I found my
hat all rite in the box I received
your letter last friday dated March
29th and was happy and thankful to
hear that you were all well and had
Seen Mr Swartwood I wrote uncle
Norman aletter along time Since and
have not Received any answer yet

and Sarah you did not write as
they said any thing about receiving
aletter from me So i think it must
have been mis carried you wanted
me to write about Leut Col Thorp
whether drinks or not he does drink
and Some times gits the worse for licker
i am Sory to say it but it is So but
we like him very well other wise
he double Quicks us rather to much
we Some times fear that he will drink
to much and be unfit to lead us into
battle i have not heard eny thing more
from the boys Since Mr Cook gave
me the letter from Samuel about
about one week ago they were well
then i have nothing more at present
Sarah Give my Respecs to all
write often your Husband
George, L, Benedict

Suffolk . VA April 25th

my Dear wife I take this opportunity to inform you that I am well at present and hope these few lines will find you all the same I recd you letters last friday dated, Apr. 19. and 12. and 18. and I was very glad to hear from you once more and I was very thankful to hear that you had receive your money and I am a going to send ~~two twenty~~ twenty dollars more, the war news here is that the Rebls have not made eny demenstration here yet only with small arms we are in Gun shot of each other and they have dug some rifle pits knights under the cover of darkness and their Sharp Shooters Git into them to pick off our Gunners but and and our men stand in our rifle pits and forsts and shoot at the rebels they kill and wound once an a while one on both sides but not often our folks sent a force of .4. thousand yesterday to see what they Could find all tha I have heard from them is that they drove the Rebels and

took 65 prisners and 2 Cannon no more to day April the 26 it is avery pleasent Sabath morning Dear wife I am well this morning and hope these few lines will find you the Same we have no General ingagement yet but we understand that the Rebels had 60 thousand when they first Came here and we heard lastnite that Stone wall jackeson had joined them with A fource of 11 thousand we heard their music friday knigtht as plane as Could be we heard our pickets and the Rebel pickets talk to Geather lastnight and agreed to exchange newspapers to day our whole Company has left Camp and Come down to the fourt and we are all togeather now and expect to Stay to the ft. until the this Campeign is over we are to garrison the foart thare 10 of us detailed for picket we have 2 picket posts Close to the poart, 5 of us on apost and A corporel we stand 2 at atime and we Relieve each other once in 2 hours us, 10, are to picket evry

knight Study along and we ~~and~~ are free from all other duty we only have to Stand 2 hours apiece once in 24 hours and all the rest of the time we have to our Selves it is not hard but we expect everyday when we Shall have A general ingagement our folks throw Sells in to their Camp fire every day but what afect it has I do not know we have fly tents at the front and I have new tent mates now, 3 of us Mr Ames of Angelica and Simeon Bennet of of Short track and myself Mr Ames is A preacher and belongs to the Close Baptis, [illegible] you are some acquainted with S. Bennet he is a young [illegible] and I believe Mr Ames is a good christian man I am well suited with the change for Watts was very disagreeable but but the Allen boys are good boys and agreeable we picket togather on the same post, Geo Briggs the 2 Allens

home and Co. in Bukley of

Angeline we [illegible] not heard
from the [illegible] will I have nothing
more at present yours in haste Sarah
Ann and Angeline both must write
it will learn her to write write
when [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

I now inclose 2[illegible] dollars in
this letter which I hope you
will get write as soon as you
get it J. B.

Suffolk [illegible] Mar 2nd 63

my dear wife I take my pen in hand to inform you that I am alive and well, [illegible] and hope these few lines will find you the same [illegible] it [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] then went on double quick I saw them when they come back they [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] met them with a [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] them I understand that there was [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] it brought the [illegible] within range of the guns in front and then opened on them from four to I with shell and slaughtered them [illegible] they scattered in great confusion we stood in the [illegible] and fired at them how many we killed we do not know they was after their dead and wounded and [illegible] them that is all I know about them

thay have not opened on us with
any thing but small arms as I can
see they have not got any cannon or they
would use them we are still on picket
out and returned no general invasion
now when I last ... ...
... ...
... of our regiment ...
in camp at no more to day x
... my dear wife I am alive and
well as it is avery pleasent sabbath
morning and every thing seems to be
very quiet this morning the rebel
ships ... fired upon us
very brisk last night from their rifle
pits our folks opened on them with shell
which soon silenced them ... ...
... ...
in the rear and ... ...
the boys are all right ... ...
not lost but one man killed from
our co ... ... with the
... and ... ... have

heard nothing more from the boys nor
from the river Sarah, I thank the good
lord that he has spared you and [illegible]
[illegible] I hope he will
[illegible] we meet together again
[illegible] dear wife, I think [illegible]
[illegible]
and last and I [illegible] the
[illegible] me, I intend to [illegible] me
[illegible] and send it to you as soon
as [illegible] and see if [illegible] can [illegible] me
I want you to keep up good courage
and do the best you can I will send
you some more money as soon as I get
it Sarah it [illegible] long [illegible]
as near home as you can to [illegible]
[illegible] morning and evening
I am agoing to ask for a furlow
to come home in the course of 2
or 3 months if I can I have no more
news to write as I know of if any thing
new takes place I will write soon as po
sible I have just been out into the
[illegible] the [illegible] and the [illegible]

together they stood on top of their
and talked with our men ~~and men~~
both in the [illegible] and on the
position [illegible] we [illegible] men of
[illegible] in [illegible] and they are
hard [illegible] to make it is very
warm here now the trees are leaving
and vegetation is coming round very
fast I have nothing more at present
Sarah Bless you write as usual
Give my respects to all your in
house your Husband [illegible] Benedict

Suffolk Vir May 4th

my Dear wife I will write a few hasty lines to let you know that I am well at present and unharmed but it is all quiet to day and not a Rebel to be seen we suppose they all left the place last night we heard that hooker is advancing on them between fredric ksburgh and Richmond and that they have gone to help the Rebels against the hooker our folks sent out a force yesterday and attacked them and drove them back about 4 miles and we heard that they recd orders last night about 11 oclock to go and reinforce their men agai nst hooker our men sent out a force this morning to see if there was any Rebels about we have not heard from them yet our loss yesterday in killed and wounded was 1 or 2 the Rebel loss not known. we recd orders this morning to have

"three days rations in our haver
sacks and be ready to march
at 3 o clock this after noon if called
upon cavalry men came in a few
minutes ago and brought the news
[illegible] that Rebel
[illegible] yesterday they
took 2 [illegible] Rebel prisoners
and [illegible] peices of artilery and
our men found over 200 dead dead
Rebels in one place and lots of dead
men all through the woods we have
just heard from our men that went
out this morning they bring in
lots of prisoners and [illegible] there is no
[illegible] [illegible] here and black
water our men went across the
river today and found the Body
of [illegible] he was buried about 6
inches below the surfice of the ground
he was shot in the mouth our men
are gone now to take him up and
[illegible] him with the rest he
belonged [illegible] 130 Regt

I do not know whether we
will have to march or not if an
a move takes place I will write
as soon as possible I will give you
more particulars when I can and
have time no more at present
from your affectionate son [illegible] C. Benedict

Suffolk VA May. 11. 63

my Dear wife I take this oppertunity to I inform you that in and through the tender mercy and goodness of God I am yet alive and well and I hope these few lines will find you all enjoying the Same blessing we are all in Camp agin and we are all well. B. Shute was Sent to Fortress Monroe with the rest of the Sick I have heard from him once or twice he is agiting better I believe it is very warm hear now but thare is Some Cool breases wich make it very Comfertable it is very quiet here Since the Rebels left the prospect is now that we Shall stay here awhile to hold the place thare are from 20. to 25. thousand troops here now in these fortifications we hear that they are fiting very hard at Fredricksburgh but we do not hear any reliable news we have heard agreat meny diferent reports but nothing reliable but we

hope that Hooker will whip them out we have heard some very good war news long back your paper perhaps tells you all about it I saw vet: Peavy to day he was well I saw John Adams a day or two since he was well I saw Serg. Barret of Belmont aday or 2 since he was well, B. Faucekiles he was well I have heard any thing more from the boys near Washington nor our Folks down the River I recd your last letter last Thursday and was very glad to hear from you all again Sarah my Dear wife I miss you very much when my close want washing and mending and in A great meny other respecs my close were kept in good order when I was at hom and my victuals were Coocked clean and good we have enough to eat now but o how some of it is Coocked Arvillia wanted to know if my Box was all gone it is most all gone except alittle tea and black peper but I can

git plenty of black tea from the Cook
Room we had an inspection last Sabbath
of arms and Clothing and with white
Gloves on all in very nice order on
the Governments expense and boots and
Shoes all Blacked nice we go out on dress
every night about 6 olclock in that
Stile i have nothing much new to
write the trees are all leaved oute
and the aple trees have ben in blosom
Some. 2. weeks since thare is no body
doing any Springs worke for our ~~army~~
armey have destroyed All the fenses
abot Suffolk and all Bettween here
and Black water and burnt all the
Buildings between here and. B. water
I have nothing more at present
S Sarah Give my respects to all write
as usual your Husband Geo. D. Benedict

Mrs. Geo. Benedict
Belvidere
Allegany Co
N. Y

[redacted]

Suffolk May 14th. 63.

my Dear wife I take this oppertunity to inform you that I am well at present and I hope these few lines will find you all the Same I have just Come in from Picket on the Black water Road all Safe and Saw no Rebs it is the first time I have been out on Picket Since the Rebs left here it is all quiet hear now while we were out on Picket yesterday thare were, 12. Regiments of infentry passed by us they were Going towards Blackwater we were Surprised for we did not know as any of the Suffolk troops were under marching orders thare were about 2 hundred Cavelry and. 2. Batteries of Artilery they had 12, or, 14. Cannon, whare they they were going or what for we did not know they took lots of Provision and hay for their teems and Bagage waggons and ambalance waggons, but we

the 130. as Good luck Seems to be on our Side yet Stay here and are not under Marching orders and the prosp ect is that we Shall Stay here awhile now. thare is aman in our Company that recd aletter from his cousin at Fredri cksburgh he was thare during the late Battle ~~he~~ I Saw the letter and heard it red the letter was daited, May 8th and the letter Stated that, Wilber Haver was killed he was Shot through the head and his Brother Stoped to help him and was took prisoner by the Rebels and the other Brother was Captin and he was cashiered and Sent home the letter Stated that the army of the Potomack was defeated again at Fred burgh and that Hooker was paid out we have heard agreat meny diferent rumers abot their fiting thare but nothing reliable yet. I have

not heard any thing more from brother Benjamine and Bro. Samuel nor from our folks down the river the troops here are in Good health Generaly we have heard nothing from the troops that went out yesterday Sarah = my Dear wife I feel very thankful that I am alive and well yet and to hear that you are alive and well yet I have not heard from Shute late ly tell Mr. Ingles that Jo. is well my old Chums are all alive and well Sarah I want you to keep up Good Couradge and do the best you Can until I return to you again the Good Lord will take care of us if we put our trust in him nothi ng more to day (May 15th. my Dear wife I am well this morning and I hope these lines will find you the Same it is very fine warm weather here now, we heard from the troops lasnite that went

out day before yesterday to Blackwater we heard they ~~hat~~ had taken Franklin that is a little viladge the other Side of Blackwater we heard heavy Cannon adeing in that direction yesterday after noon the armey all Seems to be in motion as though Something is agoing to be done and I hope thare will be, I did not receive your letter yesterday as usual but I Shall look for it every day until it comes Sarah you have done first rate thus far in writing to me often I have recd A letter from you almost every thursday 2 have mised but 1 Came on friday I think I have recd all of your letters but one and that was the one you Sent with tea in it I never recd that it is all quiet here now I have nothing more ~~to~~ write at present Sarah I want you to write all the news you know and how you are giting along give my respects to all

~~your~~ your Husband Geo. D. Benedict

[illegible]

[illegible] that went out [illegible]

[illegible] Railroad [illegible]

[illegible] bringing [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] teams and supplies [illegible]

[illegible] on the way they have [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] on both sides [illegible]

[illegible] killed and wounded [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] that [illegible] had [illegible]

[illegible] mean [illegible]

[illegible] it [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] we [illegible] all the [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] ticket [illegible]

[illegible] should have been glad

[illegible] I have not

[illegible] from the way [illegible] Washington

[illegible] down the [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] and [illegible]

[illegible] working [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] said [illegible]

[illegible] troops at Baltimore

[illegible] and Virginia were called

[illegible] Hookers Command and Penn-

sylvania Militia were ordered to fill

[illegible] seems to me that

[illegible] to make another

[illegible] by [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] more to [illegible].

[illegible]

[illegible] 23 [illegible] my dear
wife I [illegible] pen [illegible]
[illegible] Sabbath morning [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] we have [illegible]
[illegible] camp [illegible]
last night on the picket post and had
[illegible] for the
[illegible] yesterday morning [illegible]
[illegible] and Bunkwater [illegible]
[illegible] heard [illegible]
[illegible] been out there about 3 weeks [illegible]
[illegible] Richmond and going [illegible] the 6
Massachusetts Regiments time is out and
they go home tomorrow our troops are
tearing up the railroads to prevent the rebs
from using it and to prevent them from-
using the iron to [illegible] with we heard this
morning that our [illegible] had [illegible] taken [illegible] the place
called Jackson I [illegible] not know where it is

[illegible]

[illegible] the have [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] from [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Sarah and [illegible] [illegible]

your Husband Geo. L. Benedict

[illegible]

[illegible] their [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] the [illegible]

[illegible] Suffolk [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] 29. 30 mi. [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] we [illegible] under [illegible] command [illegible] Colonel [illegible] and Major Scott [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] and [illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] o'clock [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] Railroad [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] finish [illegible] and [illegible]
[illegible]

[26 May 1863]

[illegible] me [illegible] this [illegible] had
not been able to write in [illegible], as
[illegible] absent from Camp, and
[illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Chance to write. I have not had an[y]
[illegible] another near Vicksburg [illegible]
[illegible] the use of [illegible] friends
[illegible] them very [illegible] me to write
for [illegible] the Chance to
[illegible] that [illegible] but [illegible]
[illegible] them [illegible] Come [illegible]
[illegible] the
Grant is going to do something at
Vicksburg [illegible] the papers say that the
Rebels there offered to lay down
their arms and march peaceably out
if Grant would let them but he
refused to accept of their offer but
must have an unconditional Surrender

[illegible] ms

[illegible]

we do not know but hope it [illegible]

[illegible] will [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

for [illegible] than ever

[illegible] to [illegible]

[illegible] like them [illegible] at the present

time [illegible] it is my daily pray

[illegible] that God will give [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] will Bless

[illegible]

[illegible] and [illegible]

[illegible] not [illegible]

[illegible] but that [illegible]

[illegible] we do not know of [illegible]

nothing more at present [illegible] and

Priscilla write all the news

your Husband [illegible] J. Benedict

[illegible] 2 . 65

[illegible]

[illegible] and [illegible] always [illegible]

[illegible] pleasure I saw Jo Angles yesterday [illegible]

he was well [illegible] Sergt. B[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] and

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] would [illegible]

[illegible] General [illegible]

[illegible] J. A. [illegible]

5. [illegible] Va. [illegible]

[illegible] chamber [illegible]

At [illegible] have [illegible]

[illegible] the Town of [illegible]

[illegible] begin to [illegible]

[illegible] for [illegible] at

[illegible] end [illegible] to continue

[illegible]

[illegible] destitute of clothing [illegible]

[illegible] of money [illegible]

Continued on the next sheet.

[illegible] 6, 23 [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] My [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] sent [illegible]

[illegible] woman [illegible] make [illegible]

[illegible] be [illegible] and [illegible]

[illegible] men [illegible] and [illegible]

[illegible] would [illegible]

[illegible] She did

[illegible] and

[illegible]

Child [illegible] would [illegible] boy

your mother and [illegible]

[illegible] She will not

[illegible] wrong when you go from

[illegible] a friend to visit you should

not be led [illegible] others into any thing

that [illegible] be against our parents

[illegible] that you

[illegible] child do not do it again

[illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] mind [illegible] with [illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible] would [illegible] can
[illegible] again [illegible] and wash
[illegible] them [illegible] to take
[illegible] still
[illegible] child [illegible]
[illegible] I have nothing more to [illegible]
[illegible] bring [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] Husband Geo. J. Benedict

[illegible] 7, 6 [illegible] m [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] read

[illegible]

[illegible] we come to all [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] thankful [illegible]

[illegible] and it [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

April [illegible]

[illegible] wife [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] lines with [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

April 12. 63. My Dear wife

I am well this morning and take

these lines [illegible]

I received [illegible] letter [illegible] glad

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] will [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] the [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] miles and hauled

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] to [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Benedict

Augusta [illegible] 15 [illegible]

Dear wife I am

alive and well and have just

Returned from a haul 8 days

march we had a [illegible] hard

time [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] to [illegible] from you again

I cannot write but a few lines

to you now just enough to let

you know how matters stand

we [illegible] to camp to day

[illegible]

[illegible] to [illegible] to

[illegible] Harrisburg

[illegible] write more as

[illegible] I think

you had better not write to

me again until you hear from

me again we are to start tomorrow

morning and I have got

to [illegible] and pack up [illegible]

NOR
VT.

Mrs Geo Benedict
Belvidere
Allegany Co
N.Y.

Yorktown Va
June 21 the 1863 my Dear wife
I take this oppertunity to inform
you that I am alive and well
and we now ly in Yorktown
rite on the Yorke River we
are now in Camp we left Suf
folk last friday nite about Sunset and
took the Cars and went to
Norfolk we got thare at 10
oclock and took the Steamboat
and the next morning we landed
in Yorktown but I donot know
how long we shall Stay here
we are under marching orders
now to go to Williams port
thare is a quite a Sur about our
being turned ~~over~~ over into
Cavelry but I do not now
how it will be yet.
I have heard nothing more

from the boys at Washington
I saw John Adams this morni
ng he was well we are about
one hundred miles nearer home
than we were at Suffolk
I cannot write any favorable
war news we have got a good
health, Camp Ground and
good water we are Encamped
in a large peach orchard and
within a few rods of a large
Bay in the yorke River yorke
town is a quite a town it
is well filled Contrabands
it is a fine Country here the
land is good and the Crops loo
ks well and we get water to as
good a Spring as ours only
it is not quite as Cold I
have nothing more to write
at present but I will again
the first opportunity

Sarah Direct your next letters to Washington D. C. Yorktown

June 25th 1863

my Dear wife I am alive and well yet and I thank the Lord for it we are Marching westward towards Richmond but I do not no where we are going we are now about 8 miles west of Williamsburg alittle South of the potomack River we have pased through McClellan old Battle Ground at yorketown and williamsburg I Suppose we are a going to the Chickchoming River to join with General keys they their are plenty of Rebs thare and perhaps we Shall See Some fight thare I have not time to write but few lines to you now direct your letters to Washington D.C. 130 Regt.

#4943-z
GEORGE D. BENEDICT PAPERS

1863: July-Dec.

Folder 2 of 3

THE PRIDE OF FREEMEN.

July 3th 1863 Bellview
my Dear wife I take his opperlunity
to infoarm you that I am well
and hearty at present and I hope
these few lines will find you
the same we left white house
landing last wednesday the first
day of July we marched about 12
miles in large fourse within about
2 miles of Chickahominy and formed
the line of Battle and our Batil
ary shelled the Rebs alittle

and got no Reply by artilery
their infantry fired at our Cavalry
and killed one man dead I
believe that was all, we lay
there all night and the next mo
rning we Started back and
~~at~~ went 6 Miles and Camped and
we lay about 4 Miles from White
e House landing Some of our
troops and the Rebels Skirmi
shed alittle on Some other Ro
ad and killed a few on both
sides I did not learn the numb
er the Regiment is in Good
health Generaly I have not
received any letter from you
this week and I did not expect
any but I Shall look for one
next week, now to day July the 4
my Dear wife I feel very thank
ful that I Can take my pen in
hand to inform you that I

well and hope these few lines
will find you the same, we, Co
G, just come in from picket
I was on the out post with 8
other men and we were kept
awake all night because the first
pickets of Co. G. that were posted
on a Cross Road and before we
posted on the out post we heard
the Report of 2 Guns a little
distance from the first post and
in a very few minutes the news
Came to our post that one of Co.
G. men was wounded thare were
2 Rebel Cavelry rushed up
and fired at them and then
turned and Rode rapidly away
one of them hit one of our and
wounded him ~~Sligh~~ Slitely
in the Shoulder his name is
Dandlief Angelica we remain
at the aforsaid Camp yet

but whar we Shall Go I do not
now nor whare we do not now
but are liabler to leave any
day I Sent you a letter at
yorktown and another half
way between thare and Willia
msburg and another at Willia
msburg I have not recd any letter
from you this week but the
reason why I did not I expect
is because I wrote you when
I left Suffolk not to rite
again until you heard from
me I Shall look for a letter
now every day until I Get one
our rations are Sent to us now
from yorketown we draw hard
Crackers and raw porke and Coo
k it our Selves we draw Coffe
Sugar beens and Cook them
our Selves and we Go out and
pick Black Berries and put a 4

[3 July 1863]

little Sugar on them and they are very God we find old Cant teens and tare them open and one makes 2 frying pans to to fry our meat in Some have Small frying pans that they bought which are very handy Sarah I have not heard any thing from the Boys since I wrote you nor from down the river we left John Adams to the White House landing he got poisned Some how So his fase was Swelled up So he Could not Scarcely See out of his eyes I must Close my letter for want of time Sarah direct your letters to Washington D C at present
George D Benedict

THE PRIDE OF FREEMEN.

July 6th Belview: va

my Dear wife I am
yet alive and well and I
hope these few lines
will find you the same
we are hear in Camp
yet it is a Good place
we have good water and pl
enty to eat we drew new Bread
Salt pork fresh Beef Salt Shugar
Coffe and hard Crackers yesterday
and the best of all thare Came
a Chaplin into our Regiment
yesterday destributed Some little
Books and he joined the Regiment
and Sang a hymn and talked
a little and mad a pryer which
was all Real Good and then he
left he belonged Some other Regi
ment the Regiment is in good

health and good Spirits now
we received news yesterday that
Rebel Lee army was badly
whiped and that our troops had
6. thousand prisoners from him
and a Great meny other things, and
that vicksburgh has Surrendered but
but I do not know whether it is Reliab
le or not but I hope So I have not heard
any thing from the the Boys Since
I wrote you nor from down the River
I guess they have all forgotten me I do
not have but little time to write
we have been Called into line of
Battle a number of times Since we
have been here thare are Bush
whackers around here they fire on
our pickets and our pickets fire on
them and that alarms the Camp
and then they will husel us into line
of Battle and keep us thare until
they find out what the matter is and then

July 7th 63 Bellview
Eighteen Miles from
Richmond we ly here in Camp
yet my dear wife I Can say to
you that I am yet alive and well
after making about 4 weeks march
we have heard that Lee has got
badly whiped besides some other
union victories and i hope the
rebellion will go speedily down
so that we poor soldiers that live
through it can return to their
dear homes again i can tell you
it is no small thing to be a so
ldier I am out on Picket now
and having to write a few lines
to you to let you now that I am
alive and well and about where
we are but we every day where we
shall receive orders to moove again
I have not had the previledge of
shooting at a Rebel since I have
been marching nor seeing one neither

have i been shot at by one
it is rumored that we are going
back to the white House landing
which is 4 Miles from here but i do
not know how it will be but the
prospect is that we shall move
from some where. i cannot write all
the particulars for the want of
of time there are 60 men on
on the post and one stands at
a time one hour each every day
we are on the out post about of
one mile from Camp the Trau
ps are in good health generally we
have marched over McClellans all
Battle ground between yorktown and
Richmond we are about 50 Miles f
north wes of yorktown and 19 Miles
from Richmond on the Pamunky
we have good water hear better
than at Suffolk Ben Shute
is at the Hospital at fort Monroe

Then day he has been troubled with the Liver Complaint besides his wound but is living yet now I have wrote you 8. letters which I have not reed any answer from yet but I am looking for one every day I have not heard anything from any of our friends since I wrote you last I saw Corn a bout the middle of last Month as high as my head and I picked Cherries almost as big as Robins Eggs with in about 2 Miles of the Chickahominy River Sarah you must excuse all of my blunders and Bad writing and bad Spelling for we harrased a most all the time some way or ether, no more Sarah direct your letters to Washington at present write as often as you can give my respect to all George D Benedict

July 15 the '63 Fredrick City
Maryland my Dear wife
I now take my pen in hand
to inform you that I am well at
present and hope these few lines will
find you the Same we lay at Fred
rick City in large fource the Cun
try is fine here and the water is
Good and we are within, 20. Miles
of Pensylvania line over half way
home we are within. 20. Miles of
Lees army but it was rumored last
nite that he had Crossed the Potomack
River and got away, but whether it
is true or not we do not know I Sup
pose I pased by Benjamine and
Sam at Washington but did not Stop
long enough to go and See them
I have not heard any thing from
them in a long time we do not
know how Soon we Shall leav here
nor how long we Shall Stay here
but I will write as often as I Can
we have been marching So long and

So much that I have not had time to wait much we heard this morning that half of Newyork City was burnt by the Coper heads in Concesmunce of drafting we have not drawn any more pay but hope we shall soon, we left Suffolk and took the Cars and went to Norfolk and then took the Steem boat and went to yorktown and then we made a march up the Paninsula 50 Miles and back again to yorktown and then we we ordred to report to Washington we took the Steem boat and went to Washington and then we took the Cars again and went to Fredrick City whare we are now, so you see we have not had much time to write I have not received any letter from you since at the Whitehouse landing t which is about 50 Miles from yorktown up the Paninsula

I am looking for a letter now
every day until I get one Vicks
burg is ours and a Good Share
of Lees army acording to all
accounts our march up the Panin
Sula was to draw the Rebs, atten
sion So they would not reinforce
Lee a the war news has been very
favorable along back but how it
will terminate I do not know but
I hope all right a, if I ever Stop
any where again to Stay any leng
th of time I will write all the par
ticulars I have wrote you Some
5. or, 6. times Since we left
Suffolk but I am afraid they
have not reached you we have Seen
Some hard times a marching the
last Blackwater we made was
very hard it was So very hot day
and dusty thare were .3. or 4 men
Sun Stuck and died by the road
side. on the way back but the

Regiment is in good health
except a very few that are at
the hospital at Fortress Monroe
Sarah I do not whether you
Can read my letter or not it is so
badly writen but you must read
what you Can and Guess at the
rest for it was done in Great hast
Sarah write all the news you
know I must Close my letter
So no more at present write
Sarah direct your letters to
Washington D.C. at present
George D Benedict

Town of Berlin Maryland July 18th

my Dear wife I take this oppe
tunity to inform you that I am
well at present and I hope these few
lines will find you the Same we are
lying at Berlin now within 11 Milles
of Lees army we hear from them
now every day we learn that Lees
army is very ~~bad~~ badly Stove up
he Certainly lost a great meny men
in Crosing the Potomack Because I
I Saw a man that was in the Engage
ment it was Beels that layed
Shutes and Kenedy arch I Saw
him to day and he told me all about
it Some of our boys went to the 136
~~New~~ Newyork they Saw Jery Peckham
he was well they lay only 1 ½ Mil
es from us they have gone now to Harpe
rs ferry we are under marching orders
now to go to Harpers ferry we expect
if we go we expect to go in Lees rear
with a large and thare is a large forece
in his front now they are giving him fits

they say it is imposible for him to Git away without being Compleetely Cut to peices and wiped out I hope it will be the Case for I want to go to my Sweet home again Oh Dear home how Sweet oh how I long for the, my Dear wife. Child and Mother the war news are first rate now and I hope it will Continew better and better ~~to~~ untill the war will be Closed up and we few that are Spared may be permitted to return to their near and Dear families. Sarah I have not received a letter from you, Since we were at the White House landing Some 3 or 4 weeks ago I want one very much and I am looking for one every day, Jay. Peck ham Come to our Camp to day I Saw him and talked with him is well I have had the dirreah 3 or 4 days perty bad but I took black Pepper plenty and I am agitting

better, the water is very good
hear we are within a half Mile
of the Potomack river and very Close
a Canall and railroad but we expect
to leave hear tomarrow morning if the
orders are Countermanded if any Chan
ge takes place I will write you
we left Frearick City on the 16 of
July at Sun Set we marched all
night and the next day until about
12 oClock the next day and arrived
at Berlin thare is a very large fource
here to follow up Lees army till
they use them up I do not know wh
ether you get my letters or not I
have wrote you every Meove we have
made as meny as 5 or 6 letters which
I have not received any answer from
Sarah I do not think you are to
Blame in the least but in Conce
quence of our marching So much
tell Mr. Peckham that I Saw Jay
today he was well his Regiment

were a going to leave here at 7. OClock this evening he did not know where they were going. I must bring my letter to a Close and attend to my other matters. Sarah Direct your letters to Washington D.C. at present George. D. Benedict

Warrenton VA July 28th 1863

my Dear wife I am well at present and I hope these lines may find you the Same I received 2 letters from you to day oh how Glad I was to hear from my Blessed wife once more for I had not had a letter in Some 3 or 4 weeks oh how Glad I was to hear from you again thank the Good Lord for it, we left a few detached men to Suffolk the offect of our 7 days to Suffolk was to draw the Rebels attension thare to keep them from Reinforcing Lee So as to Give our troops a better Chance, Ben Shute is at Fortress Monroe and Simeon Bennet they went thare Sick but I understand they are better and thare has bew one or 2 left at diferent places whare we have been they were unable march we are now lying at Warrenton VA it is a quite a Large viledge nise viledge we may Stay here Some time and we may leave in 2 days we do not Know we have God water here and it is a Good place Mr Loveland my old tent mate is here and very Sick we think he has Got the Consumption and Can not live I Saw him to day he looks very bad ndeed Mr Ames is well and all of my old tent mates, no more to day

July 29th my Dear wife I take this oppertunity to inform you that I am well at present and I hope these few lines will find you the Same we are lying at Warrenton City now in a very Good place we do not Know how long we Shall Stay here but we expect

not long we have not drawn any more pay yet but
expect it soon they say we are agoing to draw some
very soon our object in leaving Suffolk was to join
the army of the Potomack to defeat Lee I suppose we
left our knapsacks to Fredrick City with all of our
clothing in them except a change of shirts and socks
which cary with us we came here Saturday night we
have lost one man out of our Regiment he died yesterday
he tired out marching and they put him into the
bagage wagon and jolted him so bad that it killed
him he belonged to Co D he was about 28 years old
he was from near Tiny he left a Dear wife and one
Child we left John Adams at the white House landing
he had got pisoned so his face was swelled so bad
he could scarcely see out of his eyes I have seen nor
heard from him since Serg Barret I have not seen
in some time I think he was took sick and left on
the way some whare Ben Shute is at Fortressmonroe
I do not now how he is giting along I do not much
from him Cap Brown went thare to sick from
yorketown he has not ben with us since and I
have not heard from him I do not wish him
any bad harm but I hope he will not return to
the Company again for he is a drinking swearing
& quick tempered fellow the Company most all
hate him Vandeapool went thare to sick from
yorktown I have not seen nor heard from him
since I do not know whare old Lee is now we
do not heir much about him lately but they say
his army is all cut to peices I know that our
men have taken a Great meny prisoners because
I have seen some of them no more at present Sarah
write Direct to Washington, D.C. Geo. D. Benedict

Warrenton. City Va
July 31th 1863.

my Dear wife I take this oppertunity to inform you that I am alive and well yet and hope these few lines will find you all the same we are lying at Warrenton City yet and having a good time and a good rest and all the Black barries we can eat and Both green and dried apples we can eat and shugar to sweeten them with I recd 2. letters from you since we have ben here one dated july 6th and the 20 and I was very gad to hear from you again I have wrote you 2. since here and I hope you have recd them. I Suppose we are a going into Cavelry sure and if we do we take the Cars here and go Back to Washington or between Washington and baltimore and thare drill awhile it is Colonel Gibbses doings

fiting us into Cavelry Some of the Regiment are agoing to Send Home after Horses if I Go thare Sarah my Dear wife if I cannot Come Home I am a Going to have you Come thare and See me no more to day Aug 2th 63 my Dear wife I am well this Sabath morning we left Warrenton yesterday and Marched South East near Warrenton junction and Camped for the night we do not know when we Shall leave here we are liabl to leave any hour, we heard heavy Cannonading lastnight which was Said to be at Culpep. they Say they were fiting thare all day yesterday we have have not heard the result yet we are with Generl Meads head Quarters yet thare is Some talk that we the 130 Regt are a Going into Cavelry But we dont not know

how it will be yet acording to the newspapers and all other report the war news is very favorable now our folks are whiping the Rebs at every point we ly now near warrento junction which is 9 Miles from warrenton City I have recd but 3 letters from you since we left Suffolk I recd one at the white House landing and 2 at Warrenton City the latest one was dated July 20th and the other July 6th I am looking for more every day the Regiment are in Good health now I have not heard a word from the Boys since I left Suffolk nor from any the rest of our friends you # take the paper you get war news perhaps more Correct than we do for we are marching and do not get the news every day

Aug. 8th 1863 Manassass Junction Bulls Run My Dear wife I take this opportunity to inform you that I am well and harty at present and I hope these few lines will find you all the same we have been marching the most of the time since we left Suffolk and we have not seen any Rebels nor shot at any nor any of them have shot at us we are now lying at the Manassass Junction in Camp we are under Generals Meeds Command but we the, 130 Regt are Released from all Army Duty for a long time. Because we are agoing to be turned over into Cavelry Shure, and Colonel Thorp has gone to york State now and took. 9. men with him to By Cavelry horses for the Regiment they are to be taken to Portage Station and there the Government pays for them and they

[31 July 1863]

are put aboard of the Cars and Sent to the Regiment, they Say we have to Stay in Camp a long time and drill we have a very Good Camp Ground whare we have plenty of Green Apples to Stew and very Good water and the Regiment are in Good health I have not received but 3 letters from you since I left Suffolk one at the white house landing and 2 at Warrenton I have wrote you Some 6 or 8. I am looking for Some every day I want to hear from you very much we have just received 26 dollars of our pay I owed the Sutler 2.00 which leaves me 24 dollars which I Shall Send you 20 dollars of I think thare is five Months pay due me now or more and we expect Some more Soon I have not time to write all of the peticulars now but I will write more Soon

oh Sarah my Dear wife I Can
not tell you the destruction I have
Seen in this war I have Seen
a great deal of old Va and Some
of Maryland and Some of it is very
nice and Some very poor I think
we will git each others Mail often
now because we are within 28
Miles of Washington I have not
heard any thing more from any
of our friends I want to hear from
them very much they are talking
Some about furlows but how it will
be I do not know but I hope to git
one I have aplied for one and
Sergt Barret has to Cap. Brun
Says he will do all he Can for me
to get one I will Send you Some
money in my next I think your
letters have been mis Carried or
delayed by the way or I Should
have got them I dont now as you
have recd all of mine but I hope
you have recd them all

Aug 9 the 63 Manasass Junction
my Dear wife I take this Sabath
mornings opportunity to inform you that
I am well and can eat my ration
the weather is very warm here it has
been so hot that we Could not march
in the middle of the day and have
ben oblige to fall in to the Shade and
lay there until it got Cooler we have
got a good Camp it is in a Grove
and very nice Shade, Cap. Brun is
with us now he has been to the
hospital sick he is unwell now
and thinks he will go home and St
ay Ben Shute is at the hospital
Sick yet Capt Says he never
will be able to join the Regiment
again he is on lite duty now we
left our Sutler at Suffolk and
whether he will be with us again
I do not know oh Sarah I thank
God this morning that we are alive
and well yet oh how I do want to
See you all we are to have meeting at

10 OClock to day in the Grove near
the Camp we are drawing Soft bread
again now it is very Good we Get it
from Washington Sarah I want you
to write to me all the the news
you know and all about how you
are a giting along Arvillia
I want you to write me a Good
letter you done very will before but
I want you to take a little more
paines and See if you Cant do a
little better you must not take
patern after me because you
have a better Chance to write
than I do Sarah my Dear wife
write often direct your letters
to Washington D C I will write
often now we have Got Settled in
Camp nomore at present
George D. Benedict

Manassas Junction

[illegible] [illegible]

October 23th my Dear wife I take this oppertunity to inform you that I am alive and well yet I received your last letter Dated October the 4 and I was glad to hear from you old the enemy has been in upon us and we have had to march very war double quick almost every to keep him from flanking us but our army finaly drove them out their loss heavy but they tore up Railroad 3 men killed from our Regiment and some wounded I cannot write the perticulars now for want of time for we expect to very soon when we shall leave here, October 26th 1863

my Dear wife I take this opportunity to inform you that I am well at present and hope these few lines will find you the same the reason why I have not writen to you before is because I have not had time we have been marching a most all of the time for the last 2 weeks During the late Battle our Regiment made a charge on the rebs all but 2 companies and that was A. and, C. was not in the fight our Regiment made a Charge on the Rebs and killed 7 and wounded a number more and drove them from the Ground and they have had some hard about our army has drove them at every point we are now in the first Camp we occupied in Manassas Junction

but how long we shall stay
here I do not know we hear
cannonading to day towards Culpeper
I received your letter friday dated
Oct 18th and was glad to hear
from you that you had recd
the box and mony that I sent
you I have seen the Battle
field oh how awful I have
not time to write any more
now I will write as often
as I can Sarah write often
George L Benedict

Culpeper December 13th 1863

my Dear wife I take this opp[illegible]
[illegible]
you [illegible] at present and hope
these few lines will find you
the same. I have not had
a letter from you in [illegible]
[illegible] and I [illegible] like
a great while and I have not
written to you as often as usual
for want of time for we
have been marching the most
of the time since we left
[illegible] ction. we are now
lying at Culpeper but we are
under marching orders at
a moments warning. Genral
Mead has been fiting Lee
and drove him back across
the Rappadan River
I expect we shall march on
and fight old Lee

and I hope we shall whip
[illegible] like we
[illegible] is very favorable now
I think Sarah my Dear
wife I am writing to you
now with a pencil because
I have no ink and Cannot
get any now I thank God
to day that I am yet alive
and well through so many
dangers as I have pass'd
through Sarah you have
my prayers that the Lord
may sustain you and I trust
I have [illegible] no more today
Nov. 13th Dear wife I am well
this morning and we are lying
at Camp [illegible] the Regiment
is in good health. [illegible]
we found the Rebs fortifyed
before we reached the Rapphana
ck and drove them out

and where the [illegible] are away
the Regiment [illegible] took 2
thousand prisoners 6 pieces
of [illegible]
[illegible] heavy loss [illegible]
on both sides we are ~~under~~
marching orders and do not
know what day we shall
leave we expect to go for
ward to fight [illegible]
[illegible] since
we left [illegible] the
Sutler [illegible] went back to
the [illegible] the Compa
ny [illegible]
Grant is all right
I understand A Vanderpool
has got his discharge and
gone home Sarah we
suffer a great deal with the
Cold many times but our
time is fast running away

The Good Lord Bless you
and [illegible]

Respt

[illegible]

Culpeper Nov 18th

my Dear wife I take this
oppertunity to inform
you that I am well at
present and hope these
few lines will find you
the same we are lying
in Camp yet at culp
eper very near the Rapa
dan, the Regiment is in
good health and in good
spirits But we do not
know how soon we shall
leave I received your
letter last week and was
glad to hear from you

Nov 21 my Dear wife
I am well at present and
hope these lines will find
you the same I recd your
letter Nov 16 and was
glad to hear from you
[illegible] we are lying at

[illegible] in Ca[illegible]
[illegible] in Beaufort [illegible]
[illegible] one [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] a word from
[illegible] of [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
of [illegible]
I will [illegible] often as
I can for I know you are anx
ious to hear from me and
I want you to write often
as you can I hope we shall

get some furlones this winter
but I do not know how it
will be we are in the
army of the army of the
Potomack we draw our Rat
ions now and cook them
our ~~[illegible]~~ selves except our
Bread that we draw we
pick up tin cans in old
Camps to make our Cook
ing and we find plenty of
old Canteens at old Camps
where we go we melt them
apart and one makes a Spi
der which answers very
well to fry our meat in
Serg Barrett and John Slamy
is all rite if we go into
winter quarters I shall
write now for some thin
ings the Regiment is in
good health we only lost

I may be killed or severely wounded out of our Regiment no more at present
except

Direct your letters to

D. Benedict Co. G.
the first Vermont Dragoons
Washington D. C.

Culpeper Dec 18 1863

my Dear wife I take the
opportunity to inform
you that [illegible]
[illegible] and hope this [will] find
[illegible] the same [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] dolla
[illegible] pay of which I
will send you 20, 10 in
Each letter [illegible]
[illegible]
Picket [illegible] on the [illegible]
in [illegible] of the Rebel Camp
find our Regiment [illegible]
on Picket [illegible] Squadrons 2
Squadrons at a time, Co. A.
and Co. G. go together they
are on [illegible] this is out about
3 miles from [illegible] and on Camp
Guard now it takes 30 m for
Camp Gard, 10, on each Relief
it is all quiet here now no

fifteen [illegible] it is thought
that we will be [illegible]
[illegible] here [illegible]
you [illegible] things that
[illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] you ma
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] and you may send my
Razor and Shaving brush
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] Dec. 14th my dear wife I
am well and we are [illegible]
here yet [illegible] we are a
going [illegible] near here
for [illegible] tent with
the [illegible] yet
and probaly shall for the
winter [illegible] if [illegible]
Can be of any service to
you She had beter Stay at
and try and learn what she

Care of home Sarah if you
think she will be any
help to you. Keep her
at home, Dec 15th
my Dear wife I am well
this morning and hope
these lines will find
you the same
we are in Culpeper
& are we are a going
into winter quarters
here and you may send
me a Box as soon as you
have a mind it will
be very acceptable Direct
it to [illegible] Co
[illegible]
Washington D. C. Culpeper
you my pay the transporta
tion thare and send me
the amount and I will
send it to you agin
thare were 2 Squadrons

of [illegible] went on a sco[illegible]
[illegible] monday and tuesday we
[illegible] all daye and
[illegible] and did not see
any Rebs I will inclose
10 dollars [illegible] this letter
to [illegible] no more at pres[ent]
[illegible] Benedict

#4943-z
GEORGE D. BENEDICT PAPERS

1864

Folder 3 of 3

[illegible] Jan 17th 1864

[illegible] Once more will I take [illegible] [illegible] to inform you [illegible] [illegible] and hope [illegible] [illegible] find you the same [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] are [illegible] [illegible] now very Comfortable [illegible] duty [illegible] [illegible] Pickets on [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and we are out [illegible] [illegible] a mile apart [illegible] on Picket [illegible] and the rest of [illegible] Army are on [illegible] miles from Culpeper and about 2 miles from the Rapidan River I have been [illegible] from duty about 10 days for the want of good Boots

The [illegible] that we draw from
Government are [illegible] things
[illegible] rip all to pieces and
[illegible] home
we have plenty to eat due
Coffee it is [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
a [illegible]
on Biscuit and Butter [illegible]
and nothing [illegible]
[illegible] wife Cooks it we draw
our Rations Separate and
Cook them our selves in our
[illegible] if you have
not [illegible] and
to Send one I want you
to [illegible] to the
Company [illegible] and get
me a pair of Boots large
[illegible] No 11 let the
Cost be what it may I will
Send money enough to
pay all the expense.

I am so [illegible]
to do so [illegible] trouble but
I see the Book I sent
you a dollar in my letter
yesterday and I will send
you more money as we are
expecting some more pay
soon and then I will send
you some more.
Jan 18th my Dear wife
I now inform you that
I am well and hope these
few lines will find you
the same. I went out to
[illegible] this morning
[illegible] some [illegible]
[illegible] the [illegible] is a
[illegible]
[illegible] I bought a
[illegible] of bread
brought it to Camp and
I had some Bread and
milk it was good

Thanks my [illegible] my
[illegible]
[illegible] february next
[illegible] Comrades
[illegible] will [illegible]
[illegible] if we
good [illegible]
[illegible] will [illegible]

[illegible] we must trust
in the Lord [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] your
[illegible] G. D. Benedict

George D. Benedict (letter)

Rapidan. Via
Jan. 26. the 1864
my Dear wife I take
this opertunity to inform
you that I am well at
present and I hope these
few lines will find you
all the same it is very warm
mice weather here for the
season we hear no war
news of any importance
only the Rebel solgiers
are a deserting every day
and coming into our lines
and declare that they will
fight against the union
no longer Sarah I. J.
Thorp is with us now
we do not like him at
all Because he drinks
the officers most all
drink and Gamble

and do not Regard the Sabboth day atall. oh. So much evil in the army the Good Lord have mercy upon us all Sarah my Dear wife I have not had a letter from you in. 4. or. 5. weeks. oh my Dear wife what Can the matter be I do not know but I hope I Shall git one Soon or I Shall think Something awful is the matter I have ritten you Some 4 or 5 letters to you and have had no answer one of them had, 10. dollars in money in it and another with, 5. dollars in it which I hope you have

Ere this time I Shall
indeavoure to write once
or twice a week while
we remaine in Camp
we have been marching
so much and been so
busy that I had to negle
ct riting but now we
are in winter quarters
Still we have Picket
duty and Camp Guard
to do many other things
to do, we can see the Rebs
and their camps across the
River they have Pickets
along the River the same
as we do only about 3
quarters of a mile apart
thare is no fiting here
it is all quiet now.
I have heard any thing fro
my Brother at Washington
yet

I wrote for a Box I thought if you Sent me one you mite Send what you have amunto Sarah I do not want you to go to so much trouble wo pick up our Cooking utencials in the old Camps things that the Soldiers have left. Jan 27 my Dear wife I am well this morning and hope these times may find you the same no more at present Sarah write often yours Husband

Geo. D. Benedict

Rapadan . VA
February 1 th 18.64

my Dear wife I am well at present and hope these few lines will find you all the same I receiv received your letter ye sterday Dated Jan 10. and .14 and . 25. and I was very hapy to hear from you again you have received all the mone y that I Sent you I should think by your letter, 10. dollars in one and, 5. in the other I intended to send, 5. doll more but we have been marching So mu uch I and Some times Git out of Rations

and have by I have
used more money than
ussed I Shall not be
able to send you any m
ore until I draw some
more then I will send
it rite along you wrote
to me all about the but
but I have not reed
it yet but I am lookin
for it every day I will
rite you as soon as
I get it my Dear
wife you done all
things well about
the Box only I am
afraid it made you
to much trouble. Dan
h Scott is our major
and Wiley Wels is our

Captin I See the
frait on the Box is 4d
dollars and 14 cents I
was weighed to day and
weighed 180 pounds poun ds
12 pounds heavier than
I ever did before my
dear wife I have not
forgotton you by no
means and Shall not
forget you and I know
you will not forget me
I have not time to
rite ~~to~~ any more at pr
esent I will rite mor
at ~~to~~ Soon Sarah my
Dear wife write often
Direct as usual
your Husband
Geo D Benedict

Sarah W. Benedict

[illegible] 12th [illegible]

[illegible] my Dear wife. I take this opportunity to inform you that [illegible] at present [illegible] hope [illegible] the same [illegible] Dear wife I read your letter of [illegible] the 5th [illegible] and was glad to hear from you all with the exception of one thing and that is [illegible] conduct Oh how sorry I am. [illegible] is a taking [illegible] [illegible] wife I received the Box all rite and I feel very thankful to you for sending me so good a box the [illegible] are first rate you wanted me to give you a description of Culpeper and our Camp Culpeper is a [illegible] about twice as large as [illegible] it lies on rolling land and was a nice place before

this war broke out it is built
Shattered and in, and by me was
our Camp is within about
5 miles of it we stayed there
2 or 3 days and looked through
the village there are ten
houses and hotels and churches
but all is dead now done now
our Camp is on the Road
running from Culpeper to the Rail
Road and we are between our
Camp is on a level piece of land
in a pine grove the reason
why I bit my last letter off so
short the orderly came and told
me he is on picket and I
had to leave it and go
and could not begin it
again for 3 days. Feb 16th
My Dear wife I take this oppor
tunity to inform you that I

and home then time will
~~make~~ make you the same today
I am delighted on Cain [illegible]
but I will try it [illegible] write [illegible]
can tell [illegible] the [illegible]
you in my last that I had received
[illegible] it all [illegible] and that I received
~~me~~ your letter last week and
was glad to hear but the [illegible]
I must write a little [illegible] you
I hardly know what to say to you
for I think I had told [illegible] that
was necessary to [illegible] before I left
home but I will try to give you
as good advice as I can [illegible]
[illegible] by your mother [illegible]
[illegible] feelings [illegible]
[illegible] and be with bad comp
any such as all the town boys
and some others of no better
character either going home

and [illegible] [illegible] all night [illegible]
inviting them home with
[illegible] [illegible] all night which
makes [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
have that Arvilla [illegible] [illegible]
will answer it. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
through [illegible] and [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] and [illegible]
[illegible] remember me Feb 13
my dear wife I [illegible] well this
morning the Lord bless you
and Arvilla keep out of bad
company by all means and I want
you to write me whether you done
well the last one you wrote no
more at present I [illegible] with
[illegible] as usual [illegible] Husband
George L. Dennie
I have [illegible] dollars for you, [illegible]

Rapadan Feb 22 18[illegible]

To my Dear wife I take this oppertunity to inform you that I am well at present and hope these few lines will find you the same we have just returned from picket and we are getting some new recruits in our Regiment we have to [illegible] our Company [illegible] a number of [illegible] on the other side of the River [illegible] my [illegible] to be [illegible] [illegible] when we get out on the [illegible] we dismount [illegible] their Horses and stand on [illegible] [illegible] our fire arms are one carbine one Revolver one standard Saber [illegible] my Dear [illegible] I am well at present and I hope these lines may find you the same I have

and returned from a grand
review near Culpeper C.H.
the whole Brigade was out
on review (Sake was much the best that
i ever saw a little
experience in it..
.. that have not been
hope these lines will find
you all enjoying the same
blessing the Regiment is in
good health and good
spirits I have no war news
to write of any importance
the pay master was here
the before yesterday and
gave us twenty six dollars
apiece I shall send you
20 dollars in this letter
I owed the sutler 2 dollars
it will leave me 4 dollars
and I had 8.75 cts which leave

[illegible] my pay and [illegible] think
shall try to send you a lot of
them [illegible] you and the middle line
Writing I want you to
to study at home and keep
out of bad company entirely
if I have one more [illegible]
[illegible] of the kind I shall have
to write to some friend to
take your grammars until
I return and send money
to you ma and have no
complain [illegible]
stay with me [illegible]
till my time is out
and learn you to what
I am sorry to say [illegible]
is what your own desta
nation Writing the last
letter you rote me you
done first rate I think you

have improved very much
in writing I want you to
write to me as often as you can
[illegible] written [illegible]
[illegible] Sarah we
had a prayer meeting last
night in our Co, and
it was good we calculate to
have them as often as we can
no more at present the
[illegible] Lord Bless and
and preserve until we meet
again. Your Husband
George H Benedict

Rapadan Culpeper Co Va

my Dear wife and daughter

I am well at present and hope these few lines may find you all the same Dear daughter I received your letter this morning dated January the 31 and I was glad to hear from you again that you were all well I received the Box also this morning all rite I went out on Picket yesterday and wen I came in this morning I found the Box in my tent all rite it had Come to the Colonel tent and my tent mates had brought it into our tent so you see I had no trouble with it at all oh Sarah my Dear wife I feel a thousand times oblige to you for so good a box tell Mrs Ingles that Joseph is hear all rite he is in the Sutler Shop I see him about

Every day Sergt Burt is all
rite Mr Himes is well and hardy
brother Hazchiles is well the
weather is very fine and warm
for the season it is all quiet
herear yet no fitting here there
is some little firing among the
Pickets no one been killed I do
not think we shall stay here long
the papers and other things indicate
a early move with the army and
I believe there will be something
done soon I trust you have heard
from some of our friends and that
neighbours call in to see you I wou
ld like to call and see you myself
John Adams is well and is work
at blacksmithing for the
Regiment young Burling
ame has got his discharge and
gone home to Belfast Shute

has gone to Manisson a few
too . Underwood discharged and
gone home we are very near to
the Railroad Running from
Rapadan to Elexandria which
is 9 Miles from Washington it
brings all of our rations to us
we have to spare we sell
some to pay for our washing
and we give some to the poor
colored peoples there are a great
many poor Citizens that come
into our lines to get their livi
ng nomore to day Monday
Morning February 8th 1864
my Dear wife i tak this oppertu
nity to inform you that i
am well at present and i hope
these few lines may find you
the same i have just returned
[illegible] away from it two days
[illegible]

amongst the Rebs are returned
unharmed. But Shaw was
done [illegible] liberty and [illegible]
the whole Brigade went and
our Regiment was not in the
engagement + Gen. [illegible]

amongst the Rebs are returned
unharmed. But there was
some skirmishers and Infantry firing
the whole Brigade went out.
our Regiment was not in the
engagement. Geo. Bradie.

1 Culpeper April 24th

my dear wife I take this opportunity to inform you that I am well at present and hope these lines may find you the same we Broke Camp yesterday about 12 o'clock and and packed our traps and mounted our horses and marched back to the Rear near Culpeper and halted and pitched our tents and who do you suppose came thare to see me Brother Shumak he came to see me as soon as he heard we got thare he had not heard nor seen anything of Benjamine since I saw him the first time we are in Camp now but we expect marching orders every day we have a large number of dismounted men I dont know what they will do with them

we have got a Beautiful Camp now but we do not expect to occupy it long. Benjamine Samuel and my self have all got in to the army of the Potomack and I hope we shall see each other often the Peech trees are in full bloom and the Grass has Grown to very good feed it is very nice warm weather here now Sarah I cannot write any further le news now the war has already lasted 3 years and the Good Lord only knows when or how it will end but I hope for the best the Rebels are cutting and slashing every where they can they are doing their Best

Camp near Culpeper
April 26th 1864.
My Dear wife I take
this opportunity to
inform you that I
am well at present and
came to camp [illegible] this mor-
ning with [illegible] friend and
the [illegible] I was most out
on Picket. There was a
detail made from our
Regiment yesterday
morning and sent out
on the old Picket line
about 6 miles from Camp
the Rebs have just thrown
out there plenty of them
to be seen on the oposite
side of the River now they
are fishing all along the
bank of the River and
their Pickets are within
30 rods of my post

but they are very neat yet
they have all sorts of clothing
I should think very home
spun by the looks of them
the trees are leaving out
and the grass has got up
it is good bite I have just
come in off of Picket Post
and got my dinner and
now writing we stay out
on Picket, 2 days at a time
now we shall be relieved
tomorrow about noon and
go into Camp Ahorse I
like Cavelry much better
than infantry in some
respects we do not have
to go afoot and carry such
heavy Loads the men are
generaly healthier than the
in infantry

5 but old we loose and
use up a great many
Horses we cannot amis of
dead Horses in All directions
when we were marching last
summer it was nothing strange
to see Horses fall down
in the Road and could go
no further and then would
have to shoot them and let
them lay the Rebels are a
fortifying all the time and
a preparing for a great
Battle I suppose April 27
my Dear wife I am well this
morning and expect to
return to Camp today
from the Picket line and
if any other Change takes
place I will write you
as soon as I Can no more at
present ~~~~ Truth First as usual
your Husband Geo. D. Benedict

July 18

Mrs. Geo. Benedict
Belvidere
Allegany Co
N. Y

July 18

Mrs. Geo. Benedict

Belvidere

Allegany Co

N. Y

Mr Joseph Jacik

Yorktown Bureau Co

Ill.

Fredericksburg Va - 18 May 1864.
Mrs. Sarah Benedict.

I have visited your good husband thrice. He sends his love: he told me you were a blessed good woman. He loves Christ, the Saviour. I held a service in his ward this morning. He is in the house occupied once by the Mother of Gen. Washington. Your husband is comfortable: - severely wounded in the shoulder and back.

Your letters at present cannot reach him. I like him very much.

Very truly yours Servant for Jesus Sake, Jasmine Hall,
Episcopal Clergyman of Philadelphia - delegate of the Christian Commission.

U. S. Christian Commission

MAY
21

George D. Benedict
for Sarah Benedict.
Belvidere
New York.